

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 6, 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent no. 6,116,461 to Broadfield. In response, the substance of claims 7 and 8 has been incorporated into claim 6, and claims 7 and 8 cancelled. Claim 6 has additionally been amended to recite that the individual compartments are serially arranged along the length of the insert (see Fig. 7). It is respectfully submitted that when the various limitations of claim 6 are considered in combination, the result is a unit dose dispensing drawer. More specifically, because there is a single insert that defines the volume of the drawer, and that volume is divided into compartments serially arranged along the length of the drawer, with each compartment having its own lid, the drawer can be withdrawn from a cabinet in such a manner that only one individual lid, and hence one compartment (i.e., a unit dose), can be accessed at a time. See paragraph 53, page 11 of the specification as filed.

In contrast, the insert of Broadfield is a pocket which is neither the length of the tray nor does it define the volume of an individual drawer. Accordingly, whenever the drawer of Broadfield is opened sufficiently to access one pocket, every pocket in that row is accessible. It is respectfully submitted that amended claim 6 is allowable over Broadfield.

Claim 10 has been written in independent form and is believed to now be in condition for allowance.

Claims 11 through 47 are indicated as being allowable.

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Amdt. Dated 24 March 2004
Reply to Office action of 28 November 2003

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the instant application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance for claims 6 and 9 - 47 is respectfully requested. If the examiner is of the opinion that the instant application is in condition for disposition other than through allowance, he has respectfully requested to contact applicants' attorney at the telephone listed below so that additional changes may be discussed.

Respectfully submitted,



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